

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/PEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/EP 03/13646	International filing date (day/month/year) 01.12.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 19.12.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC D06L1/02		
Applicant UNILEVER N.V.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.
- ☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).
- These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
- I ☒ Basis of the opinion
 - II ☐ Priority
 - III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
 - V ☒ Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - VI ☐ Certain documents cited
 - VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
 - VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 23.04.2004	Date of completion of this report 17.03.2005
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016	Authorized Officer Fiocco, M Telephone No. +31 70 340-4538



INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/EP 03/13646

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, Pages

1-37 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-10 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:
- ☐ the drawings, sheets:

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. **PCT/EP 03/13646**

**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-10
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-10
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-10
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/EP 03/13646

Re Item V

**Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement**

- 1 Reference is made to the following document:
D1: WO 02/46517 A (GEN ELECTRIC) 13 June 2002 (2002-06-13)

2 **INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1**

Document **D1**, which is considered to represent the most relevant state of the art, discloses (cf. **example 2**) a dry cleaning process from which the subject-matter of claim 1 differs at least in that the amount of surfactant is less than 0.9 wt.%.

The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore new (Article 33(2) PCT).

The problem to be solved by the present invention may be regarded as to reduce the colour damage in a dry cleaning process.

The solution to this problem proposed in claim 1 of the present application is considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) for the following reasons: none of the cited documents suggests that a reduced colour damage can be obtained in a dry cleaning process if the amount of anionic surfactant is kept below 0.9 wt.%.

3 **DEPENDENT CLAIMS 2-10**

Claims 2-10 are dependent on claim 1 and as such also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 03/13646

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 D06L1/02 D06L1/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 D06L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 02/46517 A (GEN ELECTRIC) 13 June 2002 (2002-06-13) cited in the application page 2, line 11 - line 24 page 6, line 3 - line 10 page 10, line 9 - line 26 example 2 table 8	1-3, 8-10
Y	US 3 689 211 A (GIAMPALMI JOHN J JR ET AL) 5 September 1972 (1972-09-05) column 2, line 32 - line 64 example 1	4-7
Y	WO 00/36206 A (3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES CO) 22 June 2000 (2000-06-22) cited in the application page 1, line 26 - page 3, line 18	4-7
-/--		

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

31 March 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

08/04/2004

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 02/50366 A (GEN ELECTRIC) 27 June 2002 (2002-06-27) page 2, line 12 - page 3, line 3 page 5, line 20 - page 6, line 2 page 7, line 1 - line 8 page 10, line 19 - page 11, line 14 tables 1,3	1-3,8-10
X	DE 37 39 711 A (KREUSSLER CHEM FAB) 8 June 1989 (1989-06-08) page 1, line 54 - line 57 example 2	1,3,8-10
A	WO 02/053824 A (UNILEVER PLC ; LEVER HINDUSTAN LTD (IN); UNILEVER NV (NL)) 11 July 2002 (2002-07-11) page 2, line 10 - line 25 page 5, line 18 - line 30 example 1	1-10

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP 03/13646

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 0246517	A	13-06-2002	US 2002115582 A1 AU 8689401 A EP 1341956 A1 WO 0246517 A1	22-08-2002 18-06-2002 10-09-2003 13-06-2002
US 3689211	A	05-09-1972	BE 749533 A1 DE 2019418 A1 FR 2039440 A5 GB 1307318 A NL 7005922 A	26-10-1970 12-11-1970 15-01-1971 21-02-1973 27-10-1970
WO 0036206	A	22-06-2000	US 6159917 A AU 3569799 A EP 1141468 A1 JP 2002532638 T WO 0036206 A1	12-12-2000 03-07-2000 10-10-2001 02-10-2002 22-06-2000
WO 0250366	A	27-06-2002	US 2002004953 A1 AU 8529901 A EP 1346100 A1 WO 0250366 A1 US 2003074742 A1	17-01-2002 01-07-2002 24-09-2003 27-06-2002 24-04-2003
DE 3739711	A	08-06-1989	DE 3739711 A1	08-06-1989
WO 02053824	A	11-07-2002	WO 02053824 A1 US 2002142932 A1	11-07-2002 03-10-2002